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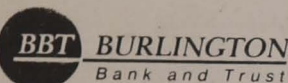


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SOIL CONSERVATION



Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners. Gary Wagner, Jeff Bergman, Charles Nealey, Frank C. Hedges, Sherm Smith.



Horace Sutton is recognized by the District for 47 years of service as District Treasurer and Assistant Commissioner.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

July 1, 1992-June 30, 1993

Soil and Water Resource Conservation Plan. The Plan has been approved by State Conservation Committee. The title page and notification of where the plan can be located are filed with the county recorder.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District and Soil Conservation Service has been approved and signed. This is an EO Addendum concerning Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act regarding non-discrimination in employment, delivery of services and representation on the board.

Awards. The District nominated Gary Wagner for the Woodland Owner of the Year Award. The District recognized the award to Gary as Wildlife Management farmer of the Year. Gary has also been named 1993 Tree Farmer of the Year in Iowa.

Tour. The District sponsored a No-Till bus tour to Lexington, Illinois. Twenty-three persons participated in the tour.

Staff Changes. Larry Jones became District Conservationist for the District in September 1992. Doug Ensminger accepted a Soil Conservationist position in Tipton, Iowa, starting December 1992.

Appointments. Gary Wagner resigned the position of Alternate Representative for the district on the RC&D Executive Board. Sherm Smith was appointed to represent the district on both the County and RC&D Executive Boards.

Cost-Share Policy-Guidelines. Priorities and guidelines were adopted to use in approving State cost sharing.

Priority of practices in descending order is No-Till, Terraces, Water and Sediment Control Basins, Grade Stabilization Structures, and Grassed Waterways. Approval of terrace projects is limited to \$350/acre benefited; water and sediment control basins, \$300/acre benefited. Total cost sharing is limited to \$350.

Priority of REAP practices in descending order is Conservation Cover, Timber Stand Improvement, Tree Planting, and Rescue Treatment.

Scholarship Award. Two scholarships of \$250 each were awarded to the Tri-State Educational Foundation for a student(s) attending Southeastern Community College. Drew DeLang was awarded one of the scholarships for the fall semester.

Illinois SWCD Sherm Smith accepted an invitation from the commissioners at Macomb, Illinois to explain our Iowa system of electing commissioners. Commissioners are appointed in Illinois.

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

October 1, 1992 - September 30, 1993

Item/Practice	Number	Ac/Ft
New Cooperators	26	4,430 ac
Individuals Assisted	518	
Conservation Practices Applied	191	
Conservation Plans		2,536 ac.
Tracts with No Highly Erodible Land	165	
Tracts with Highly Erodible land	42	1,063 ac.
Tracts with Conservation System Applied	41	1,480 ac.
Tracts w/Approved FSA Conservation Plan	43	2,530 ac.
Field Borders		8,500 ft.
Conservation Tillage		3,546 ac.
Conservation Cover		3 ac.
Conservation Cropping Rotation		4,540 ac.
Contour Farming		308 ac.
Grassed Waterway		6 ac.
Terrace		19,600 ft.
Cropland Treated/Protected		3,901 ac.
Wildlife Acres Treated		216 ac.

ANNUAL REPORT OF DES MOINES COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Fiscal Year July 1, 1992-June 30, 1993

Expenditures of funds provided by State of Iowa for District Commissioners' Expenses, Office Supplies and Expenses, Office Equipment, Financial Incentive Programs and Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP).

1-M FUNDS--TRAVEL, OFFICE SUPPLIES, EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT

Commissioners' travel	\$830.73
Office Supplies & Expenses	1,758.17
Printing	61.10
Total Allocation	\$2,500.00

1992-93 STATE FINANCIAL INCENTIVE FUNDS

Terraces, 5,520 ft. completed	\$11,354.80
Obligated, terraces not completed	5,314.40
Unobligated	.07
No Till 445.9 acres completed	4,459.00
Total Allocation	\$21,128.27

1991-92 STATE FINANCIAL INCENTIVE FUNDS

Terraces, 15,240 ft. completed	\$25,078.82
No Till, 309.2 ac. completed	3,092.00
Total Allocation	\$28,170.82

1990-91 STATE FINANCIAL INCENTIVE FUNDS

Terraces, 6,855 ft. completed	\$12,469.08
Water & Sediment Control Basins, 5 completed	1,839.14
No Till, 587.42 ac. completed	5,874.20
Total Allocation	\$20,182.42

1992-93 REAP-PRACTICES

Timber Stand Improvement, 80.5 ac. completed	\$4,559.96
Unobligated	660.64
Total Allocation	\$5,220.00

1992-93 REAP-FORESTRY PRACTICES

Timber Stand Improvement, (not completed)	\$1,194.75
Unobligated	150.25
Total Allocation	\$1,345.00

1991-92 REAP-PRACTICES

Timber Stand Improvement, 113.9 ac. completed	\$6,339.93
Total Allocation	\$6,339.93

1991-92 REAP FORESTRY PRACTICES

Timber Stand Improvement, 21.9 ac. completed	\$1,553.40
Total Allocation	\$1,553.40

REVOLVING FUND ACCOUNT

July 1, 1992-June 30, 1993

Balance on hand, July 1, 1992	\$220.62
Receipts:	
Flag & Scales Sales	\$145.42
State Reimbursement	1,918.32
CD Redemption	7,250.83
Donations (121)	3,490.00
Dues Reimbursement	350.00
Bus Rental	200.00
No Till Tour	390.00
Total	\$13,744.57
	13,965.19

Disbursements:	
Supplies & Postage	\$1,118.17
Debt Reduction	
(H. Sutton)	1,000.00
No Till Bus Rental	542.50
Meals at No-Till Tour	156.00
Subscription	30.00
Bank Charges	17.00
IASWCDC Dues	500.00
NACD Dues	550.00
Safety Deposit Box	10.00
Sales Tax	2.28
Des Moines Co. Recorder	5.00
Tri-State Education	
Scholarship	500.00
Total	\$4,430.95
	-4,430.95

Balance on hand, June 30, 1993 \$9,534.24

ANNUAL REPORT



Audrey Ellis,
Data Transcriber



OFFICE STAFF- Drew DeLang, Conservation Aide; Dorothy Davis, Secretary;
Larry Jones, District Conservationist; John Horan, Conservation Technician.

IN APPRECIATION

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District sent out a letter asking for a contribution to the district program. As a result, many persons have responded with a contribution. We thank all for their donation toward our efforts to promote soil and water conservation in Des Moines County.

The following individuals made donations after the printing of the last annual report.
R.D. Underkircher
Michael Fesler
Robert Kuntz

MULTI-FLORA ROSE by Pierce Giffin

This article is intended to summarize Multi-Flora Rose control and eradication progress to date. Beginning in 1981, a Multi-Flora Rose Technical Committee was formed which endeavored to use various funds to cost share chemical methods of control. Because of limited funds, landowner apathy, and the fact that seed continued to be spread more each year by birds, our program made little progress. In fact we were at least 20 to 25 years too late in starting once it was known what the problem was.

However, in 1984 Multi-Flora Rose was found to be dying in Kansas from some evident disease. Dr. Abe Epstein of Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa, was asked to look into this situation as possible biological control. This plant pathologist has been researching what he calls "rose rosette disease" ever since. Each year there is more evidence of rose rosette occurring naturally only in Multi-Flora Rose and not affecting cultivated rose varieties. This disease (believed to be a virus type borne by mites) can be transmitted from plant to plant by manual grafting. The effect is gradual and over several years will eliminate Multi-Flora Rose, especially in thick stands. It will be necessary, however, to use chemical control for isolated plants or possibly mowing or digging to eliminate all seed sources.

The beauty of this biological control is that we have Mother Nature working for us each year in the growing season.

NO-TILL SHOWS IMPROVEMENT

By Charlie Nealey

Every agricultural commercial on radio and television mentions it. All farm publications are full of it. If by now you still lack interest in no-till, I'm sure you will look at receiving your next Farm Journal with the same enthusiasm a housewife has for Super Bowl Sunday. The reason for all this media attention is that some real exciting improvements have been taking place with no-till in the last few years.

Every year more desirable no-till drills became available. Row cleaners, 13 wave coulters and seed firming wheels are just a few of the many advancements machinery manufacturers have offered. In side by side comparisons where this new equipment has been tested an improvement has been noticed. Most of the slow early growth that has been associated with no-till in the past has been eliminated.

Chemical companies have also done their part to improve no-till. About five years ago several excellent new post applied soybean herbicides became available. Three years ago competition caused these herbicides to drop in price. About the same time, Roundup a popular herbicide used in no-till for burn-down also took a major price drop. Last year 2,4-D ester received a label for use as a no-till burn down on soybeans. Now several new corn herbicides for no-till are also showing promise. What this all means is that no-till herbicide cost has been greatly reduced, and the herbicide performance has been enhanced.

The fact is, today we have technology available for no-till to be very competitive if not the most competitive tillage system you could choose.

Here at this Soil and Water Conservation office we are impressed with the benefits of no-till for reducing soil loss and improving water quality. For this reason we have decided to give no-till a high priority. If you think no-till is in your future, stop by and see us. We might be able to help you.

COMMISSIONERS

Gary Wagner, Chairman
Sherman A. Smith, V. Chrm. (1993)
Charles T. Nealey, V. Chrm. (1994)
Jeff Bergman
Frank C. Hedges

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

Horace Sutton, Treasurer
Arlyn Musselman
Leonard L. Lane

OFFICE STAFF

Larry Jones, SCS District conservationist
John Horan, SCS Soil Conservation Technician
Drew DeLang, SCS Soil Conservation Aide
John Fruehling, SCS Soil Conservation Aide
Audrey Ellis, SCS Data Transcriber
Bernard Carter, SCS Volunteer
Dean Shaw, SCS Volunteer
Dorothy Davis, State & District Secretary

WANTED: A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is looking for persons who are interested in conservation. The local SWCD board is made up of five persons who are elected at a general election. These five individuals are known as SWCD Commissioners.

The board then appoints a number of Assistant Commissioners. Anyone is eligible to become an Assistant Commissioner. In the past farmers, bankers, teachers, and business owners have served as Assistant Commissioners. It provides the opportunity to get involved, express an opinion, promote and carry out conservation related matters that may come before the SWCD board.

If you are interested in becoming an Assistant Commissioner for the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District, please contact one of the five current board members or the local office. If you know someone who you think would make a good Assistant Commissioner, contact them and encourage them to get involved.

FINAL REMINDER

The 1985 Farm Bill required that all people operating Highly Erodible Land must develop a conservation plan to remain eligible for USDA benefits. This was accomplished by the deadline of January 1, 1990. The 1990 Farm Bill continued to stress the conservation requirements of Highly Erodible Land and held to the deadline of January 1, 1995 to have the conservation plans fully applied to the farms.

That's right! January 1, 1995 is the deadline to have the conservation plan in effect on all Highly Erodible Land. In order to meet the deadline, many practices need to be applied during the 1994 crop year. Yes, that's this year. These practices include, but are not limited to, crop rotations, conservation tillage, no-till planting, contouring, and field borders. Grassed waterways and terraces scheduled in the conservation plan must also be applied by January 1, 1995. These practices may be delayed until after harvest of crops, but with the weather we've had for the past two fall construction seasons, it may not be wise to wait.

The Soil Conservation Service has made an effort to contact all land owners/operators with Highly Erodible Land to be sure they fully understand their conservation plans. If we have not reviewed your plan, or you do not understand your plan, please contact the SCS office.

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